

JANUARY, 2010

QUEEN'S HERALD

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MARCH MEETING
THURSDAY, MAR 18
7PM - LIFE MANOR
ACTIVITY ROOM

BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MAR 22
7PM AT JO
MARTIN'S HOME

PRUNING AT PT.
DEFIANCE
SATURDAY,
MARCH 6

GARDEN SALE AT
PT. DEFIANCE
SATURDAY,
MARCH 20

APRIL MEETING
THURSDAY, APR 15

CR SCHOOL/AUDIT
MAY 15, JACKSON
HALL, TACOMA

TRS ROSE SHOW
SATURDAY, JULY 3
JACKSON HALL
MULTICARE
CAMPUS

PNW SUMMER
WORKSHOP:
MINIS &
MINIFLORAS
JULY 31
VANCOUVER, WA

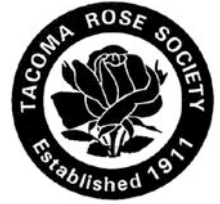
PICNIC:
AUGUST 8
LODGE AT PT.
DEFIANCE

APRIL NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE: MAR 27

TREATS FOR
MARCH:
PAT MAIN
DIANE PERKINS
KEITH RIPLEY

THE TACOMA ROSE SOCIETY AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

WWW.TACOMAROSSESOCIETY.ORG



IT'S TIME TO PRUNE THAT ROSE GARDEN!

The annual pruning at the Point Defiance Rose Garden is just days away now. In fact it is set for next **SATURDAY, MARCH 6th**, starting at 9:00 a.m., rain or shine. **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED** at this event, which is sponsored each year by TRS in cooperation with MetroParks/Tacoma.

Please dress for the weather, wear sturdy gloves and come equipped with sharpened pruners and loppers, plus a rose saw if you have one. You will also need a small bucket for your clippings, which can then be transferred to large trash cans which will be provided.

Plan to be at the rose garden by 9:00 a.m., ready to receive instructions from TRS member Bruce Lind. Novices are welcome as are members of the general public, and all first timers can be paired with other volunteers if needed, for what will be an interesting and educational experience.

When the pruning is completed, usually around noon, all volunteers are invited to stay for a potluck luncheon at the nearby Lodge. For more information contact any TRS officer or Board member. **We hope to see YOU at the garden on March 6th.**

MARCH PROGRAM: NEW ROSES BY FRANK GATTO

TRS member Frank Gatto of Raft Island Roses will be telling us all about the new roses available this year. This will be a perfect chance to see which roses will be the right choice for our gardens. Over the years Frank has had the unique opportunity to see thousands of roses. His opinion counts – don't miss this great presentation.

An early clinic on planting and spraying roses will start off the night at 7PM. Sharpening of pruners will also be available for a donation to the TRS.

Bill Wilson of the Puyallup Rose Society will be delivering **Puyallup Rose Fertilizer** (\$20/50lb bag) and alfalfa (\$11/50lb bag) at our **April meeting**. Room on the truck is limited – you need to sign up for the number of bags you need. You can do this at the March meeting or by contacting the Linds at 253-565-0246 or barbaralind@mac.com.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Cliff Martin

Here we are near the end of February with only a third of our roses pruned. We put out three brown refuse barrels of clippings (two belong to our neighbor). HINT: Use one hand to clip with and the other hand to hold branches to cut into small pieces to fit into the barrel. This technique keeps your hands from getting overly tired.

We have also been busy planting our potted Raft Island roses. (We got: 'Black Magic', 'Voluptuous', 'Secret's Out', 'Paradise Found', 'Summer Love', 'Wild Blue Yonder', 'Change of Heart', and 'Mavrik'). Every time we plant roses, I think back to my first rose bush that I stuffed into a posthole near a rainbird sprinkler! That's not the way to do it! If you have any concerns about the proper procedure, please consult our local Consulting Rosarians (on last page) or an appropriate publication. I have found that in most cases, a hole that is 18" x 18" x 15" is big enough if your soil is good. I always mix the old soil with alfalfa and amendments in a wheelbarrow. Also, the soil with your potted plant is usually a very good amendment and usable.

On this sunny day, I would much rather be outside pruning and planting. So I am ending this now. Enjoy your roses! See you at our next meeting.

POINT DEFIANCE ROSE GARDEN NEWS by Margaret Leisner



'ARTISTRY'
HYBRID TEA

Saturday, March 20th is the first day of spring! It is also the date for the annual **Garden Sale** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Pagoda in Point Defiance Park. As always, all proceeds from this sale will benefit the Point Defiance Rose Garden.

This annual event, sponsored by the Tacoma Rose Society in cooperation with Metro Parks/Tacoma is one that gardeners look forward to each year. And for good reason; it is a great opportunity to purchase rose bushes, perennials, bulbs and miscellaneous plants at low prices and no sales tax. There will also be a variety of garden treasures, books and some unique items that need new homes. This is a one-day sale and the plants will go quickly, so plan to be there early for the best selections.

TRS Rosarians will be present all day to assist shoppers with their selections and provide tips on planting. Assistance will be available to transport rose bushes etc. to patrons' cars at no charge.

An education table filled with information on rose growing, free pamphlets and assorted catalogs will be set up on site to help novice gardeners. Information on joining the Tacoma Rose Society as well as the American Rose Society will be available too.

Volunteers are needed on Friday, March 19th from noon to 2:00 p.m. to help set up the sale. Donations of rose bushes, plants etc, will be accepted at that time too. Help is also needed at the actual sale on Saturday and if you can donate a couple of hours or more, it would be greatly appreciated.

Need more information? Then contact any of the TRS officers or Board members and please pass the word about this sale to friends and family...better yet, bring them with you on Saturday, March 20th!

UNUSUAL AND UNIQUE by Designing Woman

Roses in a rose arrangement are the center of attention, the focus of a design. Roses are always the most important type of flower form when entering a rose arrangement in a rose show. Using unusual components with roses calls for imagination and planning.

The title 'Unusual and Unique' is aptly applied to Modern designs. These designs become very creative with the addition of unusual components. I purchased an unusual rose, not for its beautiful roses, but for its spectacular RED THORNS. It is called '*Rosa sericea pteracantha*'. This species was introduced in 1890. Its small creamy white blooms are very small and have only four petals and are arranged closely along the stem. (It is supposed to have moderate fragrance, but you won't find me poking my nose near this dangerous baby!) The rose only blooms once (no repeat bloom) and the foliage is fern-like. It is the large wing-like deep red prickles (thorns) that get our attention. The best color appears on the young vigorous growth and is quite startling when seen through sunlight. The entire rose bush grows to a height of over 5 feet and is vase shaped. The older canes turn brownish and the prickles lose their red color.

There are two classes in a rose show where this particular rose can turn heads: The Princess of Arrangements class that calls for using fresh roses with any other part of the rose bush only (no hosta, fern, pine, etc). It includes, but not limited to hips, canes and roots. The fresh canes of '*Rosa sericea pteracantha*' with those beautiful red thorns set the stage for a winning arrangement.

The second class is the Duchess of Arrangements class that calls for using fresh roses with dried and/or treated plant material. When I prune down the long dried canes of my plant, I can spray them black and use them in a very unusual and unique arrangement. (I hope.) This rose is difficult to find commercially and it is difficult to root. P.S. Cliff says he saw one of these roses at Raft Island Roses.



ROSA SERICEA
PTERACANTHA

SPRING CHORES FOR MARCH AND EARLY APRIL by Bruce Lind

By now we should be finished with the pruning of our existing roses (or at least almost there). The forsythia and the quince are past their peak of bloom, so we need to get our bushes ready to begin their growth phase. While there is still the chance of a frost, it is not likely to be hard or prolonged in nature.

Once our pruning is done we should make sure to get rid of any rose debris in our garden, put on that lime if we have not done so, and lay down several inches of mulch (in mulch we trust!). This is also the time to do our first spray to begin to control the fungal diseases that can infect our roses.

The editor of another newsletter mentioned that a fungicidal spray of a rose garden at this time of year is a good way to keep blackspot and mildew at bay later in the growing season. This is not to say that is not necessary to keep up our disease prevention program throughout the season, but is a reminder that we are ahead if we can greatly reduce the amount of fungal spores present in our garden. In other words, at this time of year the best defense is a good offense! There are many fungicides that are touted for their utility on roses. In general these are of two types: those that kill fungal spores and those that inhibit the ability of the targeted fungal spores to penetrate the surface of our rose's leaves. Clearly, at this time of the year when our rose leaves have yet to develop, it is the "spore killers" that we need to use. Some popular choices are mancozeb, manzate, fore (all essentially the same compound). An easy-to-locate alternative choice is "Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control." This is the same product that we used to purchase as "Daconil," and the active ingredient of "chlorothalonil." This product is sanctioned for use on vegetables, fruits, roses, flowers, shrubs and trees. Check the label for a specific species list. As always, follow the directions on the label. The chemical is listed within the "Warning" category. We used this product as a key ingredient in our disease prevention program last year, and we have never had better foliage. In a future article we will talk about some of the most effective systemic fungicides that are readily available to us all. These are generally not for use on any edible product.

By the way, I would recommend that you do not use "Ortho ROSEPRIDE Disease Control" at this time of the year. It will not be effective now. Also, this product is listed in the more serious "Danger" category.

At any time now we can continue to plant roses. This will be a major topic at the early clinic session during our March TRS meeting. Here is a quick reminder about some planting basics follow.

Choose an area with sunlight, good drainage and no intruding roots. Good air circulation at the site will minimize blackspot, mildew and rust. If existing drainage is bad, consider installing raised beds.

If you have purchased bare root roses, they should be soaked overnight in water before planting. Damaged roots should be removed and all root ends should be snipped to promote hair root growth. If your rose is in a container, follow the instructions below but try to keep the root ball intact.

You can plant your rose either in the ground or in a container. The hole should be about 2 feet in diameter and 2 feet deep. This closely corresponds to a 15-gallon container. If you plant the rose in a container, plan on repotting with fresh soil and amendments after 3 years.

After removing the soil from the hole, replace it with 1/3 garden soil, 1/3 organic material (maybe Cedar Grove Compost or Prep) and 1/3 sand. If your garden soil is particularly bad, substitute a good potting soil like Tagro potting soil.

For best results, add the following amendments to the hole: one cup each of Super phosphate (0-45-0), Dolomite lime (if in doubt, test pH), Gypsum, Kelp meal, Fish meal, Cottonseed meal, Bone meal, Blood meal, and Alfalfa meal (feel free to double up on this one!) The most essential of the above listed amendments are Super phosphate



'FIREFIGHTER'
HYBRID TEA



'JULIA
CHILD'
FLORIBUNDA



**'OPENING NIGHT'
HYBRID TEA**

dolomite lime and alfalfa. Do not add fertilizer at this time.

Form a mound of soil in the hole's center and drape the plant over it with the bud graft at ground level. Roots should be spread naturally. Gently fill with soil while holding the plant upright. Firm the soil gently with your hands, not your foot. Water thoroughly. Mound soil over stems to 10" to conserve moisture. Remove in about two weeks' time (or when danger of frost is past) with a gentle stream from a water hose. The metal nametag on a wire can injure the cane. Either replace the wire with monofilament line or put the tag on a stake. Do not use granular fertilizer on new bushes until after their first blooming period.

AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY NATIONAL ALL MINIATURE ROSE CONFERENCE COMING TO WISCONSIN

Mark your calendar now and plan to join us for a fun weekend of roses at the 12th Annual ARS Miniature Rose Show and Conference, August 20-22, hosted by the Greater Milwaukee Rose Society, Madison Rose Society, and the Gateway Rose Society of Kenosha.

**TRS ROSE SHOW COUNTDOWN – T MINUS 4
by Bruce Lind**



**'PINK PROMISE"
HYBRID TEA**

*The Tacoma Rose Society is "on the road" to its big centennial celebration in 2011. A major step along the way is our 2010 TRS Rose Show on Saturday, July 3. The show theme calls attention to the fact that this year's show is the **Dress Rehearsal** for the big 2011 event. I hope everyone will commit to helping with the 2010 show in one-way or another (ideally in several ways). Volunteering to help with our show is the first step. Be a part of the "many hands" group that will make it "light work" for all. An important next step is following through on a promise to yourself to share your beautiful roses with all who attend our rose show. Last year, under the leadership of 2009 show chair George Heger TRS reinstated a "Small Garden" division in the show. This is a place for people who have yet to go head-over-heels into growing lots of roses. We can get big pleasure from a small garden (which might even be a few roses growing in pots on a patio). If we all follow the steps from these "Countdown Articles" our roses will be ready for the show on July 3. A third step you can make is to respond to the request of our Awards Committee and make a donation to our "trophy fund" or donate a prize to be awarded at the show. If you wish to donate, please let us know.*



**'SAVOY HOTEL'
HYBRID TEA**

To be sure our roses are ready to grow well and to produce quality blooms for the rose show (and for garden beauty all summer!), we need to continue with our extra-special care. Finish up with your garden cleanup and pruning. Once that pruning is done try the relatively mild fungicide mentioned elsewhere in the QH as a way of getting the upper hand in fungus disease control. If you found any seriously damaged roses during your cleanup get out now and buy replacement(s). Plant them in the proper sized hole and away they will grow. Come to the early clinic at the March TRS meeting where we will discuss March and early April garden chores. We can have a spirited discussion on planting and spraying. I look forward to seeing many of you at that time. Now it is time for a little TRS history. The American Rose Society started its publication of an unbroken series of "Rose Annuals" in 1916. Prior to that the ARS published a Bulletin. I will share some information from those early sources in later columns. This month I want to share some nuggets I found (using Google of course) on "the Web." In the November 1914 issue of "The Garden Magazine" we find a report on rose show activities in 1914 in Tacoma. The main show was (again) held at the State Armory building in June. The report states that "nearly 400 varieties for roses were exhibited and more than 40,000 roses were used to decorate the armory. Among the 40 cups awarded was one from Hugh Dickson, the Irish rose grower. The Hugh Dickson (a medium red Hybrid Perpetual) is the Tacoma official rose, and the cup was offered for the best six. The Dickson cup was won, for the second time, by Mrs. Talmadge Hamilton." If she won again in 1916 (or later) she then got to keep the cup –

more research to do. There is lots of additional information that is fascinating, including the fact that additional rose shows would be held on Thanksgiving Day and also on Christmas Day. Those early Tacoma rose growers were truly "hard core" rose fanatics. The article also credits persuasively successful efforts by TRS members in getting the "Park Board" to create the current rose garden in Pt. Defiance Park (opened in 1913).

LAST SUMMER'S BEST PERFORMING ROSES by Margaret Leisner

Editor's note: I hope these snapshots of incredible roses grown by our members will help you when shopping for those new roses for your garden. Notice how many of Margaret's favorites are All American Rose Selections (AARS). As before, I have used www.helpmefind.com as my reference.

'Artistry' is a beautiful hybrid tea with flowers that are a blend of coral, salmon and orange brushed with cream on the reverse along with exhibition form. It has a gentle sweet fragrance. It was bred by Dr. Keith Zary in the US in 1998. Parents: Seed: 'Flower World' x Seedling, Pollen: 'Dynasty'. **AARS 1997**

'Double Delight' is a very fragrant hybrid tea with flowers that are red and white with red edges. It was bred by A.E. & A.W. Ellis and Herbert C. Swim in the US in 1977. It is considered one of the top ten most popular roses in the world. During hybridizing it was almost discarded as another white rose until it was seen that it turns red in the sun. Parents: 'Granada' X 'Garden Party' **AARS 1977**

'Dream Come True' is a yellow blend grandiflora bred by John D Pottschmidt in the US in 2006. Its upper petals are yellow edged with cerise pink, the reverse is similar but with more yellow. It has a mild fragrance. Parents: Seed: 'Touch of Class', Pollen: Unknown X Unknown. **AARS 2008**

'Firefighter' is a dark red hybrid tea with a lighter reverse. It has a strong fruity fragrance. It was bred by Joseph Orard in France before 1998 and introduced in the US by Edmunds' Roses in 2005. Parents: 'Commandant Cousteau' X 'Hidalgo' It was named for the firefighters who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. One of Margaret's grandsons is a firefighter.

'Fragrant Cloud' is a deep orange-red hybrid tea with strong damask fragrance. It was bred by Mathias Tantau in Germany in 1963. The World Federation of Rose Societies named 'Fragrant Cloud' as the World's Favorite Rose in 1981 and placed it in the WFRS Rose Hall of Fame. Parents: 'Prima Ballerina' X 'Montezuma'

'Julia Child' is a floribunda with butter-yellow flowers and a strong licorice fragrance. It was new to Margaret's garden last year and it is fabulous in the rose garden in Pt. Defiance. It was bred by Tom Carruth in the US in 2004. Parents: Seed: 'Voodoo' X hybrid of R soulieana, X 'Summerwine', Pollen: 'Top Notch'. It was named the American Rose Society's Member's Choice Rose in 2009. **AARS 2006**

'Opening Night' is a dark red hybrid tea with velvety blooms that have exhibition form and long cutting stems. It has a mild fruity fragrance. It was bred by Dr. Keith Zary in the US in 1998. Parents: 'Olympiad' X 'Ingrid Bergman'. **AARS 1998**

'Pink Promise' is a hybrid tea with soft pink and cream tones, long stems, and a fruity fragrance. It was bred by James W Coiner in the US in 2006. It was chosen to represent the National Breast Cancer Foundation. **AARS 2009**

'Savoy Hotel' is a hybrid tea with shell pink double blooms, exhibition form and a mild fragrance. It was bred by Harkness in the United Kingdom in 1987. Parents: 'Silver Jubilee' X 'Amber Queen' It was named to mark the Centenary of the Savoy Hotel in London. Google 'The Savoy – One Hundred Firsts' to be astounded by its history – "the first hotel to use pink tablecloths. The rosy glow of soft lighting on the pink clothes was considered particularly flattering for ladies!"

'Summer Love' is a hybrid tea whose flowers are a soft medium yellow with a touch of pink. It has a mild fragrance. It was bred by Tom Carruth in the US in 2006 and introduced by Weeks Roses. Parents: 'Hotel California' X 'Midas Touch' It is new to



**'SUMMER
LOVE'
HYBRID TEA**



**'FRAGRANT
CLOUD'
HYBRID TEA**



**'TIFFANY'
HYBRID TEA**

Margaret's garden but doing very well.

'Tiffany' is a pink blend hybrid tea that is extremely fragrant. It was bred by Robert V. Lindquist in the US in 1954. Parents: 'Charlotte Armstrong X 'Girona' **AARS 1955** Roses that were disappointing were **'Legends'** and **'Chris Evert'**.

WHAT IS PUYALLUP ROSE FERTILIZER?

Puyallup Rose Fertilizer is a well-balanced (15-15-10) fertilizer with trace elements specifically designed for roses. Using this fertilizer is an important part of your rose feeding program. On existing roses you should apply 1/2-3/4 cup per bush once growth is 2-3 inches long. Wait until after the first bloom for newly planted roses. Then continue to apply once a month until mid-August. If you haven't tried this product, you will be surprised how much difference this fertilizer makes.

The price is great - \$20 for a 50 pound bag. Alfalfa will also be available in 50 pound bags for only \$11 a bag. Reserve your order either at the March meeting or by contacting the Linds at 253-565-0246 or at barbaralind@mac.com. Delivery will be at the April meeting. If you cannot be there to pick it up, please make arrangements for someone else to get it. Make checks payable to the Puyallup Rose Society.

WHAT IS A CONSULTING ROSARIAN?

by Bruce Lind, Master Rosarian

At our latest TRS board meeting it was suggested that we add a column to the newsletter with a (working) title of "Consulting Rosarian's Corner." You are encouraged to ask questions pertaining to rose growing. You can send your questions to the editors.

So, what is a CR and how can I become one?

The Consulting Rosarian program is similar to the Master Gardener program. It involves education, certification and service. Because the ARS will be doing the certification, there are several requirements to meet to become a CR. You must have been a member of the ARS for at least three years prior to enrolling in the CR training school. You must also be widely knowledgeable about rose growing and rose varieties. In addition, you agree to provide educational service to those interested in learning more about rose growing, at no cost. If an individual meets these requirements they are eligible to enroll in a Consulting Rosarian School. Again, in common with Master Gardener programs, there is a continuing education requirement (audit) for CRs.

CONSULTING ROSARIAN SCHOOL/AUDIT

by John Moe, Master Rosarian

"We do have a number of CR's in this area that need an audit, plus some that have inquired about a school. We have scheduled a CR school/audit for May 15th at Jackson Hall from 9 am to 2 pm. This is the same location as the Tacoma Rose Show. Note this is prior to the shows in this area. If you plan to attend, please email John and Mitchie Moe <mailto:mjmoe@seanet.com>. Let us know if you are attending the school and we will send you the applicable forms.

The PNW District fee for schools/audits is \$20 payable at the door. Lunch is not included, but we would recommend that participants eat in the Multicare cafeteria."

FEBRUARY MEETING

What a great meeting we had! We started off with an informative 'clinic' about pruning and planting with lots of questions and answers. Jack Kiley's program about the World Federation Rose Show in Vancouver, BC and a trip to Butchart Gardens was outstanding. The addition of music gave a professional quality to the program. It was lots of fun. We hope to see you at our meeting in March.



**'DREAM COME
TRUE'
GRANDIFLORA**

**PNW SUMMER WORKSHOP
MINIS AND MINIFLORAS**

This summer's Pacific Northwest District Workshop will be all about minis and minifloras. The location is Vancouver, WA. The date is July 31. So be sure to put this date on our calendar!

**2010 DUES ARE PAST DUE!
TACOMA ROSE SOCIETY**

\$15 per member/family/calendar year

Please send to Barbara Lind, 2132 Bridgeport Way, Tacoma, WA 98466

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**'DOUBLE
DELIGHT'
HYBRID TEA**

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**Tacoma Rose Society
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Membership in the Tacoma Rose Society is open to all. The TRS is a non-profit educational organization affiliated. Meetings are on the third Thursday of the months Feb – June and Sept. – Nov. Annual banquet is in January with a picnic in August.

Dues are \$15 per household per calendar year. Make check payable to the Tacoma Rose Society and send it to the treasurer.

Website:

www.tacomarosesociety.org

Meetings are held at the Life Manor Activity Center, 1601 S. Union.

To get there from S. Union turn onto S. 15th St and go one block east. Turn right onto Puget Sound and go one block. Make a left turn the sign for Life Manor Assisted Living. At the end of the building, turn right, go up the hill and turn left to find visitors' parking. The meeting is in the brick building that faces the parking lot. Open the glass door on the right. Overflow parking is NW of the building.

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